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ON PAGE A-6

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Hunt Sues to Obtain Data Linking Him to Assassin

By Jane Seaberry

Washington Post Staff Writer

Watergate burglar E. Howard Hunt Jr. is attempting to force author Tad Szulc to reveal his sources who say that Hunt was the CIA's acting chief in Mexico City when President Kennedy's assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, was allegedly there.

Hunt yesterday filed an action in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, seeking to have Szulc, a former New York Times reporter, cited for contempt if he refuses to name his sources. Hunt has claimed that Szulc's sources are essential to a \$2 million libel suit he is pressing against author Alan J. Weberman.

Hunt has said Weberman's book, "Coup d'Etat in America, The CIA and the Assassination of John F. Kennedy," libeled him by linking him to a Kennedy assassination plot.

Hunt, a former CIA employee, has denied his was in Mexico City in 1963, according to his Miami attorney, Ellis Rubin. Rubin said that statements in Weberman's book placing Hunt in Mexico City were taken from Szulc's

book, "Compulsive Spy: The Strange Career of E. Howard Hunt."

Hunt, a novelist and chief recruiter and lookout for the Watergate burglary, served 32 months in prison after pleading guilty to conspiracy, burglary and illegal wiretapping, in the 1972 break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Washington. Rubin said Hunt is now painting and writing in Miami.

During a June deposition Szulc, now a Washington free-lance writer, refused to reveal his sources, citing "the professional confidentiality of sources" and "journalistic privilege," according to court papers.

"A free-lancer can't just refuse to answer a question because he's written a book," Rubin said yesterday. Knowing Szulc's source is not only important to the libel suit, Rubin said yesterday. The passage "is what everybody uses as an authority ... he's cited in everything written on E. Howard Hunt," the lawyer said.

Rubin said knowing Szulc's source may put an end to rumors linking Hunt to the Kennedy assassination.

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ON PAGE A-6No Conspiracy Found

Hill Unit to Open Hearings on JFK

Associated Press

The House Assassinations Committee begins hearings today on the 1963 murder of President Kennedy, indicating in advance that the multimillion-dollar probe found no conspiracy.

Theories that Cubans, organized crime, businessmen or even the Central Intelligence Agency and the FBI conspired to assassinate Kennedy are to be dealt with in four days at the end of the month-long hearings.

"You may get new insights into old problems," a committee spokesman told reporters at a briefing. "You will not necessarily get new results."

The hearings are to begin with the assassination in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963. Witnesses will include former Texas governor John B. Connally, who was in Kennedy's car and was wounded.

Disagreeing with the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination, Connally has said he is convinced he was hit by a separate bullet, not one that first went through Kennedy's throat.

That raises the possibility of a second gunman, but Connally has accepted the commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.

The commission acknowledged the difference of opinion but concluded that Oswald fired three shots from a fifth-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository.

Hearings tomorrow and Friday are to disclose results of committee experts' ballistics tests and a study of Kennedy's autopsy.

One of the committee's most intriguing findings may be dealt with Monday: a sound, during the seconds that Kennedy was assassinated, that the experts said could be a fourth shot.

The consultants hired by the committee said that if the sound were a shot, it came too quickly after the first three to have been fired by Oswald.

And the experts say the sound was not necessarily a gunshot. They conducted tests including live gunfire in Dallas two weeks ago to re-create the sounds of the assassination.

The committee hearings then will turn to Oswald evidence corroborating the finding that he was the assassin; his time in the Soviet Union and his trip to Mexico before the assassination.

The committee is to go over the performance of the Secret Service, the FBI, the Justice Department and the CIA in protecting the president and cooperating with assassination investigations.

The House gave the committee \$5 million to investigate the assassination of Kennedy and that of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968.

Opponents argue the money was wasted because no investigation could end the theories and speculation that always follow the assassination of a public figure.